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NEWS RELEASES

For Immediate Release: June 28, 2006

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SASKATOON ARTISTS INVITED TO OTTAWA FOR CANADA DAY

Ten guest artists and performers from Saskatoon will be featured in the Canada Day events in Ottawa this year. The National Capitals Commission of Canada has invited Saskatoon to be a part of the Canada Day Celebrations in Ottawa since Saskatoon has been designated a Cultural Capital in 2006.

At the "Avenue of the 2006 Cultural Capitals of Canada" at Major Park Hill there will be three Saskatoon artists showcasing their art: Elizabeth Cuming, a fibre artist; Margo Lindsay, a needle artist; and Eliza Swimmer (Tipiskaw), a beadwork artist.

At the "2006 Cultural Capitals of Canada Stage" at Jacques-Cartier Park (Gatineau) there will be a performance by Saskatoon musicians, The Metis Group of Saskatoon. This group consists of seven performers that for the past several years have presented a musical based on the 1885 Resistance at the "Back to Batoche Days". The performers include:

- Maureen Belanger – social worker at Joe Duquette School
- George Belanger – Maureen Belanger's son
- Shirley Gardiner – educator at Gabriel Dumont Institute
- Warren Isbister – currently a student at SIAST, teaches Métis gigue (jigging) and square dancing
- Jeff Soucy – educator in the high school division
- Ray Villebrun – a Métis recording artist
- Cris Villebrun – student of John Arcand, the Master of the Métis fiddle

This invitation to celebrate Canada Day in our nation's capital is a way for Saskatoon to represent the arts and culture instilled in our city.

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For more information contact:

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